

Message Text

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13

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 RSR-01 PC-04 /147 W
----- 102620

R 031210 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3817

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: OCAM PFOR MP

SUBJECT: ONLY THREE CHIEFS OF STATE FOR SUMMIT OR OCAM ALL YE

FAITHFUL - OCAMTEL VI

REF: (A) NIAMEY 1217 (NOTAL; (B) LOME 0813 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: WITH ONLY THREE HEADS STATE IN ATTENDANCE, IMPENDING
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OCAM SUMMIT UNLIKELY TAKE MAJOR NEW DECISIONS. HOWEVER, VIEW GENERAL SENTIMENT FOR CLOSER FRANCOPHONE/ ANGLOPHONE CONTACTS AND UTILITY TO AFRICANS IN NEW WORLD CIRCUMSTANCES OF CONTINENT- WIDE ORGANIZATION, PRELIMINARY STEPS REORIENT OCAM SEEM LIKELY BE PUT IN TRAIN. END SUMMARY.

1. WITH ARRIVAL MAY 1 PRESIDENTS BOKASSA AND BONGO, OF CAR AND GABON RESPECTIVELY, CHIEFS OF STATE REPRESENTATION OCAM SUMMIT CONFERENCE ADDS UP TO MEAGER THREE. SENEGALESE PRESIDENT SENGHOR HAD ARRIVED SEVERAL DAYS EARLIER AS STATE VISITOR. MAURITIAN SOURCES WHO HAD EARLIER INSISTED TOGOLESE AND NIGER CHIEFS OF STATE WOULD COME, OBVIOUSLY CHAP- FALLEN OVER POOR TURN- OUT.

2. OTHER THAN FOREGOING AND ONE HEAD OF GOVERNMENT (RMAGOOLAM), OCAM COUNTRIES SO FAR REPRESENTED BY CABINET MINISTERS OR LOWER RANKING OFFICIALS (SEE OCAMTEL 1). UPPER VOLTA PRIMIN EXPECTED JUST PRIOR OFFICIAL SUMMIT OPENING LATE MAY 3. CLOSED MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 4-5 TO STUDY REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS OF PRECEDING FONMIN CONFERENCE.

3. WHILE ITS WITHDRAWAL FROM OCAM BECOMES EFFECTIVE THIS SEPTEMBER, CONGO REPORTEDLY ATTENDING AS OBSERVER AT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEETINGS ONLY, SINCE IT DOES MAINTAIN CONTINUING INTEREST IN BELONGING OCAM SUBSIDIARY ORGANISIMS, SUCH AS SUGAR ACCORD. CONTRARY TO PARA 7, PORT LOUIS 0411 SUGAR AGREEMENT WHICH MAY BE SIGNED HERE WOULD REPLACE EXISTING ACCORD, DATING FROM TANANARIVE 1966 OCAM GATHERING, WHICH EXPIRING.

4. AMONG OTHER OBSERVERS TO PRESENT CONFERENCE IS NZO EKANGAKI, SECRETARY GENERAL OF OAU. INTERVIEW BY LOCAL NEWSPAPER, HE ECHOED OCAM SECGEN KANE' S STATEMENTS OF PREVIOUS WEEK THAT OCAM IS REGIONAL ORGANIZATION, WHILE OAU IS THE " CONTINENTAL MOTHER ORGANIZATION". THERE SHOULD BE NO CONFLICT BETWEEN TWO, SAID EKANGAKI, BUT IT IS UP TO OCAM MEMBERS TO SEE THEY DO NOT PASS ANY STRUCTURAL LIMITS. EKANGAKI SAW MUCH PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN FURTHERING COLLABORATION BETWEEN FORMER ANGLOPHONE AND FRANCOPHONE STATES. WHILE FORESWEARING POLITICAL DEPENDENCE ON EXTRA- AFRICAN POWERS, EKANGAKI ADMITTED NEED FOR ECONOMIC " COOPERATION" WITH FORMER COLONIAL AND OTHER WORLD POWERS. IN FURTHER REFERENCE TO SECURING INDEPENDENCE FOR REMAINING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AFRICAN COLONIES, SECGEN OPINED " PROGRAM OF MATERIEL" NO LONGER EXISTED, SINCE END VIETNAM WAR WOULD MEAN EASTERN COUNTRIES NOW ABLE FURNISH MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO HELP ACHIEVE INDEPENDENCE ALL AFRICAN PEOPLES. ADDED EXPRESSION HOPE ALSO FOR MILITARY AID " FROM NATO COUNTRIES".

5. ANOTHER OBSERVER IS SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO UNSECGEN JEREMACKOI WHO WE UNDERSTAND HAS SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS SEEK DEVELOPE TANGIBLE OCAM SUPPORT FOR DROUGHT- RELIEF WEST AFRICA.

6. COMMENT: WHILE EXACT BOX- SCORE HIGH- LEVEL OCAM ATTENDANCE PROBABLY HAS LITTLE SIGNIFICANCE, ORGANIZATION WOULD ON PRESENT FORM APPEAR LACK PRIORITY INTEREST FOR MOST FRANCOPHONES. ABSENCE ANY HEAD STATE OF MORE LIMITED (AND GEOGRAPHICALLY INTEGRATED) WEST AFRICAN CONSEIL DE L' ENTENTE SUBJECT PARTICULAR REMARK. INFO FROM AT LEAST ONE FONMINS COMMITTEE SUGGESTS AFRICANS INCREASINGLY SENSITIVE TO WHAT SOME MAY REGARD AS UNDUE FRENCH DIRECTION. FACT THAT BOKASSA AND BONGO CLOSED ARRIVAL STATEMENTS WITH " VIVE L' UNITE AFRICAINE" ALSO HAS BEEN NOTED. WE WOULD CONCLUDE THAT, WHILE MOST DELEGATES RECOGNIZE LONG- TERM UTILITY PARTICULAR OCAM INSTITUTIONS, THEIR DESIRE NOT BE UNDER FRENCH THUMB AND AWARENESS INCREASING USEFULNESS TO THEMSELVES OF CONTINENT- WIDE AFRICAN ORGANIZATION LIKELY BE FACTORS IN FUTURE LIMITING ROLE OCAM ORGANIZATION AS A WHOLE.

7. MEANWHILE, WITH NOT A LITTLE SCHADENFREUDE DIRECTED TOWARD GOM FONMIN (AND PMSD LEADER) DUVAL, MAURITIAN LABOR PARTY- ORIENTED PAPERS BEGINNING CRITICIZE SUMMIT CONFERENCE AS UNJUSTIFIED EXPENSE UNLIKELY PUT MAURITIUS ON MAP, AS WAS GOM HOPE. PRESIDENT SENEGHOR' S COMMENTS (SEPTTEL) WOULD SEEM SUBSTANTIATE UNLIKELIHOOD GREAT DECISIONS AT THIS ANEMIC SUMMIT, THOUGH PRELIMINARY STEPS RE- ORIENT OCAM MAY WELL BE PUT IN TRANIN. BREWER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OCAM PFOR MP
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PORTL00419
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: PORT LOUIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730534/aaaahmqi.tel
Line Count: 148
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 NIAMEY 1217 (NOTAL, 73 LOME 0813 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <14-Dec-2001 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 971119
Subject: ONLY THREE CHIEFS OF STATE FOR SUMMIT OR OCAM ALL YE FAITHFUL - OCAMTEL VI
TAGS: PFOR, n/a
To: ABIDJAN
AF
BANGUI
COTONOU
DAKAR
FORT LAMY
KIGALI

KINSHASA
SECSTATE WASHDC

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005